

rated, the intermediate forms could be made into many separate varieties. The elytral intervals "alternately strongly convex" or "strongly convex" is variable and cannot be depended upon. There is every grade between "thorax sinuate or parallel" and "sides of thorax arcuate." The specimens so gradually merge from both varieties to *nuttalli* and the punctuation of the abdomen is so variable between males and females that they cannot be separated. I therefore consider them one and the same species and that these varieties cannot be maintained. Nicolay and Weiss have already intimated that the var. *alternans* is the same as *nuttalli*. Typical examples of what is called *consularis* are often taken in British Columbia, and we have bred several from *Pinus ponderosa*, but as the other forms and intergrades are also taken here we cannot separate the series. Apparently the alternately convex intervals vary with the individual. Mr. K. G. Blair of the British Museum very kindly compared for me two specimens of *nuttalli* with Kirby's type.

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#### A NEW SPECIES OF HELOPS FROM GUADALUPE ISLAND

(Coleoptera: Tenebrionidæ)

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Contributions to the knowledge of the Coleoptera of Guadalupe Island have been made from time to time. Dr. Geo. Horn in 1875 gave a list of a small collection made by Dr. Edward Palmer (Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., V, 1876, p. 198). A single species of *Helops* being listed. Dr. Horn was not certain as to its specific status, recording it as *Helops bachei* Lec., var. In the Canadian Entomologist, vol. XXIX, 1897, H. C. Fall lists the known species of Coleoptera of the Southern California Islands, including those of Guadalupe Island, without adding any species to those reported by Dr. Horn, nor did he make any comments regarding the specific standing of *Helops bachei* Lec., var. In 1890, Col. Casey described *Helops guadalupensis* n. sp. (Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci., vol. V) and evidently the one referred to by Dr. Horn. I consider it distinct from *bachei* Lec.

In 1922, the California Academy of Sciences sent an Expedition to the Island. Among the Coleoptera secured was a series of *guadalupensis* taken by Mr. J. R. Slevin. No additional

species of *Helops* was collected at that time. The species described below makes a rather unique addition to the genus and one that contrasts greatly with *guadalupensis* Casey.

*Helops crockeri* Blaisdell, n. sp.

Form elongate ovate, somewhat slender, head and pronotum relatively small; surface smooth, feebly sculptured. Color rufous, legs and under surface of body rufo-testaceous, outer four antennal segments fuscous to piceous.

Head as long as wide, sides arcuately prominent over the antennal insertions, beginning at base of the eyes, thence moderately convergent and arcuately emarginate to the narrowly rounded angles of the epistoma, the latter transverse and truncate at apex; labrum transverse, twice as wide as long, with sides and angles evenly arcuate, apex feebly and broadly emarginate, surface moderately finely punctate and sparsely pubescent; frons feebly convex, broadly but not deeply impressed between the antennal convexities and epistomal plane, surface coarsely punctate, becoming rugoso-punctate on vertex and tempora, where the punctures become more or less coalescent. Eyes obliquely transverse, narrow and strongly convex, moderately prominent, facets of moderate size and convexity, tempora not more prominent than base of the eyes. Antennæ long and slender, extending two or three segments beyond the pronotal base, outer four segments somewhat incrassate; segments nine, ten and eleven equal in length and twice as long as wide, third twice as long as the second and about a third longer than the fourth; fifth and sixth subequal in length and about twice as long as wide; seventh as well as the eighth slightly longer than the ninth, eleventh oblong oval, obliquely pointed at tip.

Pronotum about three-eighths wider than long, apex truncato-arcuate in moderate circular arc, angles rather broadly and evenly rounded; sides moderately arcuate, basal angles less broadly rounded; base moderately arcuate, as wide as the apex; basal bead flat and rather coarse, the lateral fine, apex not beaded; disk evenly but not strongly convex, densely rugoso-punctate, punctures more or less subcoalescent in twos to fours, central area less rugose.

Elytra oval, about three-fourths longer than wide, about three times as long as the pronotum; sides moderately and evenly arcuate, converging more toward base than toward apex, rather more strongly so and arcuately convergent apically, apex subparabolically rounded; humeri absent, disk strongly and subcylindrically convex, striæ of unimpressed punctures, the latter small and separated by a distance equal to four or five times their diameter; intervals very finely and sparsely punctured. Scutellum short and subhastate.

Propleuræ rugoso-punctate, punctures not strong, rugæ dis-

tinct and irregularly longitudinal. Prosternal process arcuate between the coxæ.

Abdomen finely and sparsely punctate, more or less feebly rugose laterally; segment five equal to the post-coxal part of the first, third about a half longer than the fourth, second about a sixth longer than the third. Legs slender; tarsi not dilated. Edeagus exposed. Described from the female holotype.

The male allotype is similar to the female, but more slender; antennæ longer, segments eight, nine and ten equal in length, three times as long as wide; eleventh a third longer than the tenth and three times as long as wide. Protarsi and mesotarsi dilated and pubescent beneath. Abdominal segments three, five and post-coxal part of the first quite equal in length; second about a third longer than the fourth.

Measurements: (Types) Length 8—9.5 mm.; width 3—4 mm.

Holotype, female, No. 3685, and allotype, male, No. 3686, in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences. Collected at the south end of Guadalupe Island, November 16, 1931, by J. T. Howell. I take pleasure in naming the species after Mr. Templeton Crocker, to whom the Academy is indebted for the opportunity of collecting on the Island.

*Crockeri* differs from the other species known to inhabit Guadalupe Island, by its rufous color, smooth surface and feeble elytral sculpturing and dull luster.

*Guadalupensis* Casey is of a more robust habitus, more piceous in color and the sculpturing stronger, the striæ of the elytra being impressed and the form not so ovate, the head and pronotum being relatively larger. *Benitensis* Blais. is from Middle Benito Island and is strongly sculptured, the pronotum densely and moderately coarsely punctate, the elytra striato-subcostate, the propleuræ densely and distinctly moderately coarsely punctate and the form is more parallel.

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#### A WORD FROM DR. VAN DYKE

The latest communication received at the Academy from Dr. E. C. Van Dyke was from Cairo, Egypt. He was planning to do some collecting in Egypt and then go on to Algeria for more field work. He expects to be at the British Museum through most of May, reaching Cambridge, Massachusetts, early in June. He reports an interesting and profitable trip, much of his time having been spent studying at the British Museum and at other of the large museums of Europe.—E. P. Van Duzee.